

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending. Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner's determination that claims 10, 14-16, 26, and 30-32 are allowed, that Claims 6-9 and 22-25 are objected to, and that Claims 1-5, 11-13, 17-21, and 27-29 remain rejected.

Applicants have amended the Claims as set forth in this paper to place in form for allowance the Claims objected to by the Examiner and to place certain of the Claims rejected by the Examiner in form for allowance based upon amendment of the Claims objected to by the Examiner.

Claim 6 and its dependent Claims 7 through 9 are objected to by the Examiner. Claim 1, rejected by the Examiner, has been amended by incorporating the limitations of Claim 6. Thus, Claim 1 now presents the subject matter of Claim 6 in independent form. Claim 7 has been amended to depend from Claim 1 (instead of Claim 6, presently deleted) In view of the amended scope of Claims 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1 through 5 and 7 through 9 are now in form for allowance.

Claims 10 is allowed by the Examiner.

Claims 11 through 13, inclusive have been deleted in response to the Examiner's rejection thereof.

Claims 14 through 16, inclusive have been allowed by the Examiner.

Claims 22 through 25 are objected to by the Examiner. Claim 17, rejected by the Examiner, has been amended by incorporating the limitations of Claim 22. Thus, Claim 17 now presents the subject matter of Claim 22 in independent form. Claim 23 has been amended to depend from Claim

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17 (instead of Claim 22, presently deleted) In view of the amended scope of Claims 17, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 17 through 22 and 23 through 25 are now in form for allowance.

Claim 26 has been allowed by the Examiner.

Claims 27 through 29 have been deleted in response to the Examiner's rejection thereof.

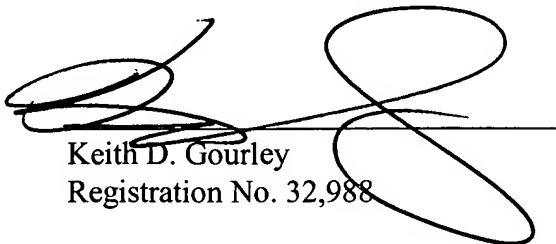
Claims 30 through 32 have been allowed by the Examiner.

No new matter is added by the amendments to the Listed Claims.

SUMMARY

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that Claims 1 through 5, 7 through 10, 14 through 21, 23 through 26 and 30 through 32 are in condition for allowance and are patentable over the art of record. Withdrawal of the rejections and objections and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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